Hebrews 13:7-9

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

* **DAY 1**

Read Hebrews 13:7-9

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

**7** Remember those

who led you,

who spoke the word of God to you;

and considering the result of their conduct,

imitate their faith.

**8** Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday and today and forever.

**9** Do not be carried away by varied and strange teachings;

for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace,

not by foods,

  through which those who were so occupied were not benefited.

1. Who are those who “led” the audience of Hebrews in v. 7?
2. What did these leaders do for the people? What does this say about the primary functions of church leaders?
3. How do leaders speak the word of God to people?
4. What is the audience told to consider?
5. What are the people commanded to do upon considering the “result of their way of life?”
6. What might be the results of the leaders’ way of life? Why might they be examples to look up to?
7. How do we imitate the faith of others? What does that look like practically?
8. Whose faith have you sought to imitate? What aspects of their faith are particularly inspiring to you?

* **DAY 2**

Read Hebrews 13:7-9 again.

1. Is there a logical connection of v. 8 to v. 7? What is the connection?
2. In what ways is Jesus Christ different than the leaders of v. 7?
3. Read Hebrews 1:10-12. How is this passage at the beginning of the letter tied to today’s passage?
4. For what length of time is Jesus Christ the same?
5. What does it mean that Jesus Christ is the same? There are several ideas in this phrase, but list a few.
6. What attributes of God do we see in this statement about Jesus?
7. How does Jesus’s immutability (he does not change) affect the way you think and live this week?

* **DAY 3**

Read Hebrews 13:7-9 again.

1. What is the connection between v. 8 and v. 9?
2. What two words does the author use to describe these other teachings?
3. Do we have any sense from this verse what kind of strange teaching he’s referring to? If so, what is it?
4. The word “teachings” is in the plural form here. Why is that significant, considering the time in which the book of Hebrews was written?
5. What is the reason given for not being misled?
6. How are our hearts “strengthened by grace?” What grace is being referred to here?
7. Why are foods not good for strengthening the heart?
8. In what ways have foods failed to benefit “those who were so occupied” with them? Consider OT laws, the arguments of the book of Hebrews, and the two covenants described therein.

This week, thank God for the countless examples of faithful people throughout Scripture. Pray that we might learn from their example and model faithfulness for one another in the church. Thank God for the promise that He is One who rewards those who seek Him and withholds no good thing from us.